



Construction Ahead!

Center median paving still underway

Paving of the I-10 center median is continuing, with the bulk of the work to be completed by the end of May, Brutoco Construction reports. The paving between Ford Street in Redlands and Live Oak Canyon Road in Yucaipa marks the first phase of the truck-climbing lane project.

Crews are pouring three layers of pavement -- a lean concrete base, a layer of asphalt and a top layer of concrete. Once the concrete work is done, crews will grind and stripe the lanes and complete drainage inlets throughout the month of June.

Most of the work on the project has taken place at night. SANBAG appreciates the patience of residents who are able to hear equipment noise during night hours.

After the median work is complete, crews will clear and excavate the eastbound freeway shoulder. Paving the shoulder area is set for the summer months and again will create noise at night.

The project also involves replacing deteriorated slabs of pavement in the current freeway slow lane. This part of the project will occur once freeway shoulder work starts.



Retaining walls taking shape

Retaining walls along Outer Highway 10 east of Yucaipa Boulevard are underway.

Last week, crews poured the foundation and now are placing rebar. The concrete walls will feature a ribbed pattern and will replace metal beam guard rail and exposed slopes.

The walls will retain dirt along freeway sections that are above street level. The height will not exceed the guard rail, so visibility of businesses will not be affected.



Work continues on freeway sound walls

Construction of walls is underway along the freeway near Reservoir Road in Redlands and Hampton Road in Yucaipa.

The lower concrete retaining wall portion of the Reservoir sound wall is finished. Crews next will pour the foundation for portions of the wall both east and west of the completed retaining wall. A concrete barrier will be placed along the freeway shoulder, topped by masonry block.

The foundation for the sound wall on Hampton Road (see photo) is being poured, and workers may begin the block installation as early as next month.



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Interstate 10 East Valley Improvements

We're listening ...

SANBAG has a telephone helpline for construction activity on Interstate 10. Please call 889-8611 x102 to leave a message to ask questions about either the truck-climbing lane project or the future I-10 widening.



Callers should not use the I-10 helpline to report emergencies. For emergency situations, please call 911.

Cities consider Measure I Expenditure Plan this month

Members of the Redlands and Yucaipa city councils this month will consider approving the Expenditure Plan for the possible continuation of Measure I, San Bernardino County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements.

Approved by voters in 1989, Measure I took effect in early 1990 and will expire in 2010. The SANBAG Board of Directors, working with private sector stakeholders and city and county representatives, created a plan for the use of revenue that would be available if voters continue the measure for 30 years beyond 2010.

Before the measure can qualify for the ballot, the Board of Supervisors and a majority of the cities with a majority of the population must approve the Expenditure Plan. The plan will be up for a vote in Redlands on May 18 and in Yucaipa on May 24. To date, the Board of Supervisors and 10 cities have approved the plan.

For the east valley, the Expenditure Plan includes funds for the continued widening of I-10, improvements to Route 30, new freeway on-ramps and off-ramps, major street projects, local street repairs, extension of Metrolink service and transit discounts for seniors and riders with disabilities.



Freeway Service Patrol aids 1,400 since January

Flat tire? *No problem.* Dead battery? *Handled.* Out of gas? *Under control.* In the first four months of operation, from January to April, the I-10 Freeway Service Patrol has offered free help to 1,431 drivers in the construction zone.

Armada Towing, which is under contract to SANBAG for this service, provides aid to stranded motorists during peak commute hours. The roving tow service operates under the jurisdiction of the CHP to provide help during peak commute hours, 5 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Most of the offers to help -- 92 percent -- were initiated by the two tow truck drivers observing disabled vehicles. The remaining assists have been the result of CHP dispatching the tow trucks.

Tow drivers Joshua and Jason Pallas, who are brothers, have helped with 234 mechanical problems, 219 flat tires, 100 overheated engines, 80 empty gas tanks, 79 accidents, 55 abandoned vehicles and more. On average, the drivers have completed their service in nine minutes and 24 seconds.

Not all motorists have accepted the offers for free assistance. In 572 cases, help already was on the way; in a number of other cases, tired drivers were napping in their vehicles on the freeway shoulder. Drivers should note that starting this summer, the shoulder no longer will be accessible, so sleepy drivers will need to sleep elsewhere.

FSP vehicles are marked with the FSP logo below the Armada Towing emblem on both truck doors (see logo at right). Tow truck drivers wear vests printed with the FSP logo and carry identification. Drivers do not accept payment or tips for their assistance.

For information, call the helpline at 889-8611 x102 or email fsp@sanbag.ca.gov.



April 6 traffic delay not expected to recur

The daylong closure of two I-10 eastbound lanes on April 6 should not occur again, SANBAG and Caltrans report.

The lane closures near Yucaipa Boulevard caused afternoon traffic to back up as far as Waterman Avenue in San Bernardino before clearing by 7 p.m.

Caltrans required the closures for emergency pavement repairs that were needed after heavy rains the previous week.

Plans called for the lanes to reopen by 2 p.m. that afternoon, but problems with material delivery and concrete setting prevented the reopening.

The daytime closure is not expected to occur again during this project.